

school lunches. They want to take away food assistance from children and needy families. They want to take away Medicaid and Affordable Care Act premium assistance. Instead of strengthening the social safety net, the MAGA majority has decided to strip Medicaid coverage from almost 65,000 children in my district alone.

Almost 40 percent of children in Washington State get their healthcare through Medicaid, 35 percent of moms giving birth and their newborn babies rely on Medicaid for their healthcare, and the MAGA majority wants to strip away their healthcare.

If any of my colleagues vote for this, they have forfeited the right to claim they are pro-life ever again. It is not pro-life to take away a newborn baby's healthcare. It is not pro-life to take away healthcare from 65,000 children in my district. It is not pro-life to take away food from hungry children.

We were promised that president Musk and the MAGA majority would lower costs for the American people from day one. This does none of that. Instead, they are trying to take away healthcare and food from our kids.

I urge everyone to vote "no" on this resolution and stop the Republican rip-off.

#### UNPRECEDENTED FIRING OF MILITARY LEADERS

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the unprecedented firing of some of our most qualified and senior military leadership, including General CQ Brown, the eminently qualified Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

General Brown is an exceptional leader, a dedicated servicemember, and an American hero. His firing, the dismissal of Admiral Franchetti, and the judge advocate generals for the services is a travesty. When nominated, General Brown had logged in over 3,000 flying hours, including 130 combat hours and command of the Pacific Air Forces for the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. His service and dedication are impeccable.

Most galling is that the person President Trump nominated is affirmatively less qualified than General Brown was when he was nominated. This person has not even met the most basic qualifications to be chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

What does this tell our servicemembers and their families and our future recruits that expect to be promoted on merit and ability?

President Trump has decided to prioritize nominating people who will make us less safe and less secure because his only requirement is blind loyalty.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, we constantly hear the drumbeat of needing to prepare for the threats that we face both today and tomorrow, both here at home and abroad. President Trump's abrupt dismissal has created chaos, will degrade our readiness, hurt recruitment, and empower our enemies.

#### LIFE AND LEGACY OF ERNEST CHARLES TANNER

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today, as we celebrate Black History Month, to recognize the life and legacy of Ernest "Ernie" Charles Tanner.

Ernie Tanner was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on June 5, 1889. His family moved to Tacoma, Washington, my hometown, in 1900, where he attended Tacoma High School, which is now known as Stadium High School. At Whitworth College, he was the first African American to play football at the college level in the entire Pacific Northwest.

After college, Mr. Tanner worked as a Tacoma elevator operator, and in 1918 he joined the Tacoma chapter of the International Longshoremen's Association, then known as ILA. He remained a member until he died.

In 1934, Mr. Tanner was the only Black member of the Tacoma strike committee during the big strike that shut down every single Pacific Coast port. Mr. Tanner worked closely with San Francisco leader, Harry Bridges, to keep Black and White workers united during the strike so employers could not break the union.

He was a trustee of Local 2897 from 1934 to 1936, where he pressured leaders to pay Black dockworkers the same wages as their White counterparts.

Ernest Charles Tanner passed away in 1956 at the age of 66. He achieved what many seek when they join a union, the recognition of the dignity of all work, to rise out of poverty, and to provide a better life for his family. This was exemplified when Mr. Tanner's son, Jack Tanner, became the Pacific Northwest's first Black Federal judge in 1978. This is generational success and wealth.

Ernie Tanner broke barriers in sports and labor. On behalf of his community, it is appropriate that we recognize his life and legacy today. Happy Black History Month to everyone.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 12 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. AMODEI) at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

The Word of the Lord is right and true. O Lord, bind Your Word this day to our hearts that it would guide our

steps and direct our lives with Your unwavering righteousness.

By Your Word the heavens were made and the starry host by the breath of Your mouth. Speak Your Word into our lives that what we do would be as You command, and what we profess would revere You.

Lord, You foil the plans of the nations, You thwart the purposes of the peoples. Then show forth Your plans which are sure and stand firm forever. Reveal the purposes of Your grace plan through all generations.

For You love righteousness and justice. Fill the Earth and all who labor in this place with Your love.

We wait in hope for You, Lord, for You alone are our help and shield. May Your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in You.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMALFA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### BUDGET RESOLUTION WILL BRING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY TO GOVERNMENT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the important work we are doing right now on the budget resolution is going to set the course to bring really strong fiscal responsibility back to this Congress and for our Nation.

It is important that we get on board and pursue this process so that we can do even better things later on this year. There is so much that needs to be done.

We are seeing the great work that DOGE is doing in reeling in the size of our government and trying to claw back some of the waste that has cost

the taxpayers money. It is not our money. It is the taxpayers' money.

This includes, for example, the great work done by our Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy the other day in California. He pointed out that this boondoggle, high-speed rail system in California that has cost about \$15 billion so far now is going to cost \$130 billion.

The quibbling over \$4 billion right now of Federal money that Biden dumped in at the last minute, we should claw that back and then stop the spigot. No more spending. It is \$110 billion short of what it is going to take to build the whole rail from San Francisco to L.A.

We need to stop the boondoggle spending. The work of DOGE and the work of our Budget Committee are going to be important to set the course for all of America and on all of these things we have been wasting so much money on.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, we have to respect the taxpayers. It is their money, not ours.

#### UKRAINE

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, Putin and Trump: a dictator and a wannabe, and another destroyed Ukrainian city. Thousands have been murdered and thousands of children have been kidnapped. Trump disgracefully voted yesterday with North Korea and Russia to blame the murdered, not the murderer.

Trump is joining a rogues' gallery of lesser dictators to deny Putin's murderous invasion, his war crimes, and a demand that he return occupied Ukrainian territory. Trump, "the great appeaser," is joined in this appalling wrong by House Republican accomplices.

While Ukrainians dodge bullets and missiles and are risking death daily, most of the House Republicans seem scared into silence by the threat of a very mean Trump tweet. By its silence, this Republican white flag surrender caucus is emboldening our adversaries to replace the world order established by both Democratic and Republican leaders since World War II.

If we fail Ukraine, our democratic ally, we fail the rule of law. Let's unite to resist the appeasement of Putin and seek a victory for self-determination, democracy, and freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

#### MAY COURAGEOUS UKRAINE PREVAIL

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the tragic

third anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine by war criminal Putin concealed as a 30-day special mission, misleading his troops into bringing dress uniforms for fictional victory parades in his quest to resurrect the failed Soviet Union.

Thanks to President Donald Trump, the Putin invasion convoy was destroyed by Javelin missiles he previously provided Ukraine. The Ukrainian people courageously and valiantly fought back with war criminal Putin importing Iranian drones and sacrificing North Korean troops, confirming this is a war of dictators in Moscow, Tehran, Pyongyang, and Beijing.

President Donald Trump is achieving peace through strength with an empowered Ukraine and a now-liberated Syria because Putin was not able to save dictator Assad, as Trump praises Turkiye's and Saudi Arabia's success.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. Trump is building peace through strength.

#### SCHOOL BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the dedicated schoolbus drivers who ensure our children's safety every day.

During School Bus Driver Appreciation Week, I had the privilege of riding along on Mrs. Pamela Respass' schoolbus at Banks Elementary School in Lenoir County.

There was so much excitement. It was an early morning, and we hopped on the bus after the prechecks. Throughout the route, Mrs. Respass greeted students by name, transforming morning faces into smiles. After parking the schoolbus, the students hugged Mrs. Respass as they hopped off and headed to class.

My experience highlights the vital role of schoolbus drivers who face enormous challenges like bus shortages and overcrowding.

We thank our schoolbus drivers across America like Mrs. Respass not just today but every day.

#### THANKING ALEX CISNEROS, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

(Mrs. KIM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to thank Alex Cisneros for his decade of service to our Nation as a dedicated staff member in the House of Representatives, most recently as my legislative director over the last 4 years.

His diligent work ethic, sharp intellect, and the ability to build trusting

relationships on both sides of the aisle have made him an invaluable part of my team.

His legislative team advised me each week in Congress and shepherded more than 40 bills through the House and got more than 15 bills signed into law.

These are real results that have made a difference in the lives of the American people.

So I thank Alex, and I hope that he knows how proud we all are of what he has accomplished.

We will miss Alex, but he will always be a part of our family.

#### CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF PARMA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF TANYA CZACK

(Mr. MILLER of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Parma Heights Police Department Chief Tanya Czack, who is a very good friend of mine.

Chief Czack has dedicated her career to upholding the law, protecting her community, and leading with integrity. With over 35 years of service in law enforcement, Tanya has risen through the ranks, starting as a dispatcher and becoming the first female chief in her department's history.

A graduate of Northwestern University's prestigious staff and command program, Chief Czack has not only excelled in her role but has also committed herself to shaping the future of law enforcement.

For 17 years she has been an instructor at police academies, preparing the next generation of law enforcement officers to serve with honor, courage, and dedication to justice.

Our community is made better by people like Chief Czack, and I thank her for her selfless service and wish her a very happy retirement. I will see her Friday.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 2302, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council:

Mr. KUSTOFF, Tennessee  
Mr. BACON, Nebraska  
Mr. MILLER, Ohio

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January